

Serial No. 10/519,138
Atty. Doc. No. 2002P09896WOUS

Amendment to the Drawings

Please replace drawing sheet 1 with the Replacement Drawing sheet provided herewith.

Figure 1 has been amended to add the element shown at new reference number 17A for the slide. The Specification has been amended only to include the reference number 17A, since the slide was disclosed in the as-filed application. Accordingly no new matter has been added.

REMARKS

STATUS

Claims 16 and 17 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

Claims 9-10 and 15-21 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Meissenberg et al. (US 3,204,407).

Claims 11-14 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Meissenberg et al. (US 3,204,407).

Claims 13-14 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a)) as being unpatentable over Meissenberg et al. in view of Linhardt (US 4,831,817).

Figure 1 of the drawings has been amended and a Replacement Drawing sheet provided herewith.

The Substitute Specification has been amended herein.

Claims 1-8 were previously canceled.

Claim 10 is canceled herein.

Claims 9, 11, 16 and 17 have been amended herein.

Claims 9, 11-21 are presented for examination herein.

APPLICANT'S ARGUMENTS

The instant invention relates to a waste heat steam generator of a gas fired and steam powered generator. The generator comprises a waste heat boiler to which exhaust gas of a gas turbine can be supplied. The steam generator also comprises at least one evaporator which is located in the waste heat boiler and is used to produce process steam for a steam turbine.

According to the invention, flue gas from a heating device can be supplied to the waste heat boiler and at least part of the flue gas can be extracted at least at one point of the waste heat boiler and redirected back to the inlet of said waste heat boiler.

With respect to the Drawing amendment, applicant has added reference number 17A. Support for this the element of this amendment is found at paragraphs [0058] and [0064] of the Substitute Specification. No new matter has been added. The amendment more clearly illustrates the slide 17A which is used to open up or close off the feed water supply line in at least one of

the evaporators so that when the supply line is closed no steam is generated in the corresponding pressure stage.

With respect to the amendment to the Substitute Specification, the reference number 17A was added to more clearly correspond slide 17A with the drawing as noted above.

With respect to the 35 USC 112, second paragraph rejections of dependent claims 16 and 17, the claims have been amended to more clearly indicate, in relevant part, a portion of auxiliary steam can be extracted from an evaporator in order to heat up and keep hot “a steam line”. Support for this amended is found at paragraph [0016] and [0064].

With respect to the rejection of independent claim 9, (which is applicable to all active claims in the instant application), applicant has amended claim 9 to include, in relevant part, “...a slide connected to a feed water supply line in at least one of the evaporators so that when the supply line is opened or closed steam generation in the corresponding pressure stage is controlled” AND to include that the instant invention presents multiple evaporators in the waste heat boiler. Support for these amendments is found at paragraphs [0044], [0058] and [0064] of the Substitute Specification.

Amended claim 9 more clearly presents that in the instant invention feed water supply to an evaporator can be selectively closed off through the use of slide 17A. This allows the steam generation in corresponding pressure stages of the respective evaporator to be controlled. For example, where at least one of the multiple evaporators is closed off, it increases and/or redirects the steam through the remaining pressure stages. Where the instant invention includes a circulation circuit for applying flue gas, the ability to close off at least one of the evaporators allows the system to operate more efficiently, especially during start up or shut down when little or no additional exhaust gas is provided to the waste heat steam generator by the gas turbine. The improved efficiency arises, in part, from the ability to close off selected evaporator pressure stages and to use the flue gas to keep the steam lines hot even when the turbine is not providing exhaust gas.

In contrast, the references Meissenberg et al . and Linhardt lack any such teaching or suggestion and they do not teach the ability to close off pressure stages as claimed in the instant invention.

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With regards to the cancellation of claim 10, the limitations of this claim have been placed in amended independent claim 9.


With regards to amended claim 11, the claim has been amended to properly depend from amended claim 9 since claim 10 has been canceled.

Conclusion

The claims, drawings, and Specification have been amended and reconsideration and allowance in light of the amendments and remarks herein is respectfully requested. The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees due in connection with this paper, including the fees specified in 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 (c), 1.17(a)(1) and 1.20(d), or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-2179.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 
John P. Musone
Registration No. 44,961
(407) 736-6449

Siemens Corporation
Intellectual Property Department
170 Wood Avenue South
Iselin, New Jersey 08830